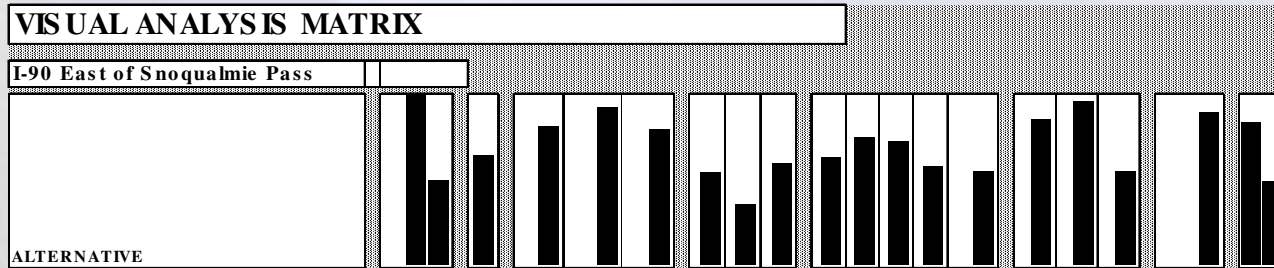


An aerial photograph of a large, calm body of water, likely a reservoir, nestled in a valley. The water is a light, milky blue-grey color. In the foreground, a winding road or path curves along the edge of the water, bordered by a dense forest of evergreen trees. The background features steep, forested mountains under a hazy sky. The overall scene is serene and natural.

Visual Quality Assessment

Concepts and Examples

Methodology



Vividness:

- 7 - Very High
- 6 - High
- 5 - Moderately High
- 4 - Average
- 3 - Moderately Low
- 2 - Low
- 1 - Very Low
- 0 - Non existent

Intactness:

Development:

- 7 - No development
- 6 - Little development
- 5 - Some development
- 4 - Average level of development
- 3 - Moderately high development
- 2 - High level of development
- 1 - Very high level of development

Encroachment (undesirable eyesores):

- 7 - None
- 6 - Few
- 5 - Some
- 4 - Average
- 3 - Several
- 2 - Many
- 1 - Very Many

Unity:

- 7 - Very High
- 6 - High
- 5 - Moderately High
- 4 - Average
- 3 - Moderately Low
- 2 - Low
- 1 - Very Low
- 0 - Non existent

High Visual Quality



Form



Line



Color



Texture

Vividness Ratings

An aerial photograph of a scenic landscape. A paved road with a green shoulder winds through a valley. To the left of the road, a river flows through a forested area. In the background, a large lake is nestled between mountains, with a small island in the center. The mountains are covered in dense evergreen forests, and some peaks are partially covered in snow. The sky is overcast.

Vividness - Landform



Vividness - Waterform



Vividness - Vegetation



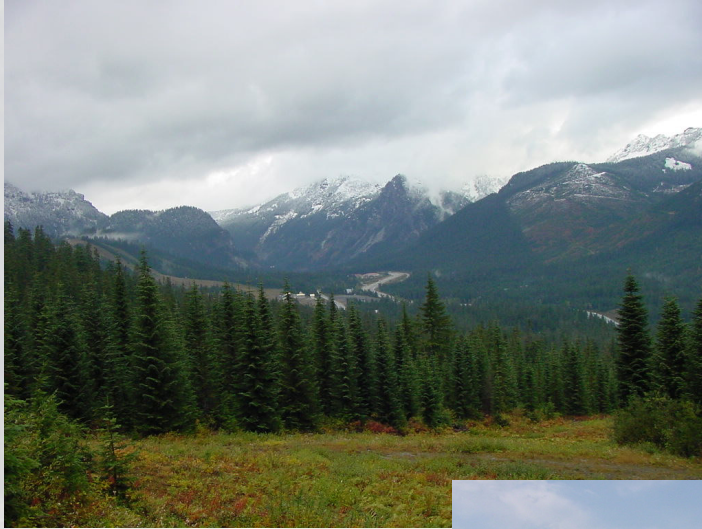
Vividness - Manmade



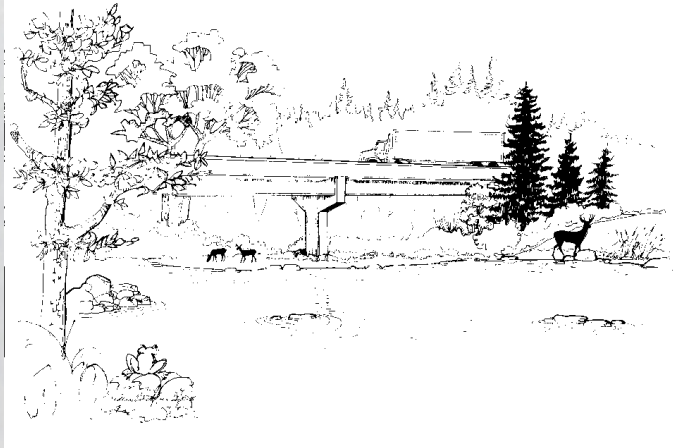
Intactness Ratings



Unity Ratings

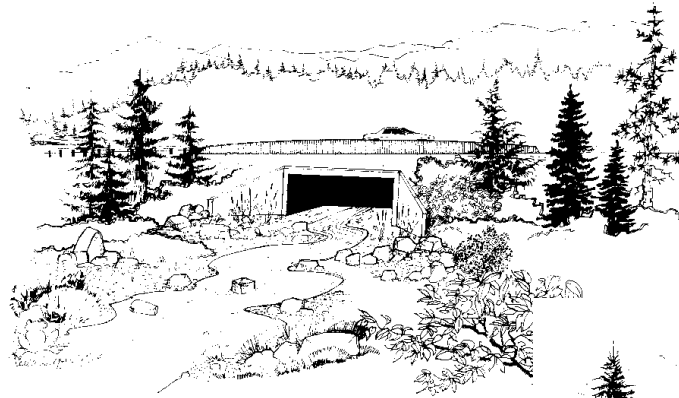


Underlying Assumptions

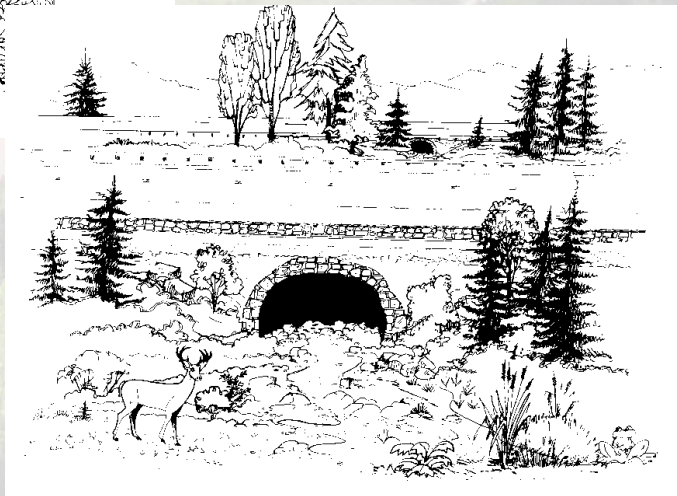


More desirable
vegetation = higher
ratings

Access to water and
lack of roadside
disturbance =
healthier vegetation



Symmetry - Using the same bridges for both
directions rates higher than asymmetry



Underlying Assumptions



Views with water rate higher, than
a comparative view without water

Take away water and ratings
go down



Underlying Assumptions



Views above a bridge rate higher than views under a bridge - unless the bridge is memorable, in a good sense.

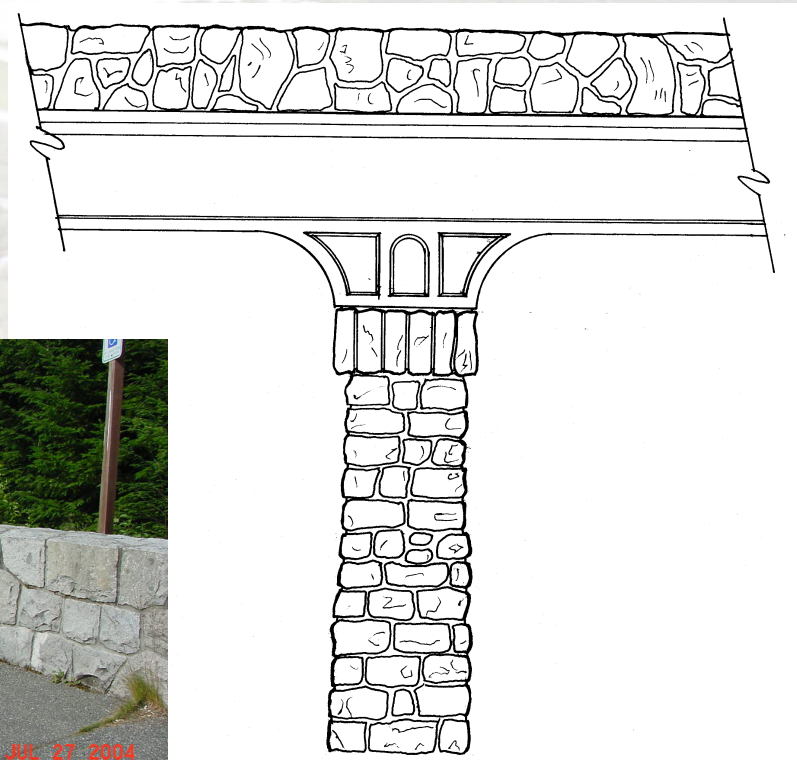
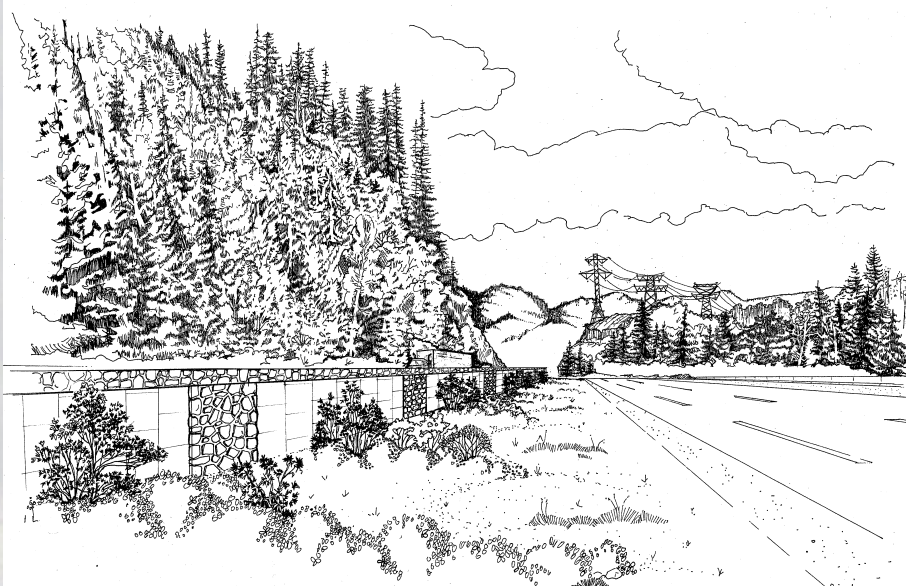
Bridges block views of landscape



Example of Underlying Assumptions for a project

We will mitigate unavoidable visual impacts using Architectural Design Guidelines


and Roadside Classification Plan -
Treatment Level 2 for Forested
Classification



Cascadian Theme

Corridor
Continuity



An aerial photograph of a large, calm reservoir nestled in a valley. A long, straight dam stretches across the middle of the frame, separating the reservoir from a smaller body of water below. A winding river flows from the bottom left towards the center, merging with the reservoir. The surrounding landscape is lush with green forests and rolling hills. In the background, snow-capped mountains rise against a clear sky. The text "Project Examples" is overlaid in the center of the image.

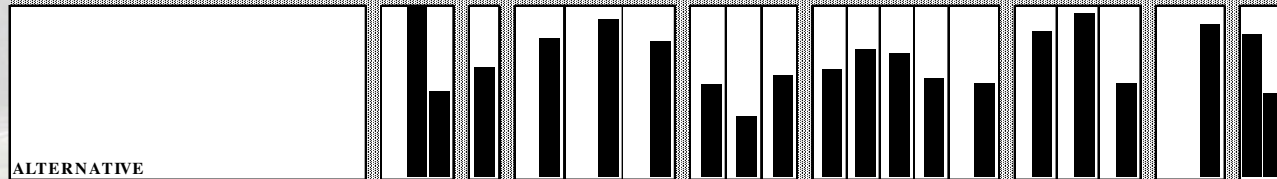
Project Examples

Views from the Road



VISUAL ANALYSIS MATRIX

I-90 East of Snoqualmie Pass



ALTERNATIVE

Landscape Unit 1 - From the Roadway

KEY VIEW 2

EXISTING

from

1

10'

50'

12 mi

x

6

7

5

5

5.75

5

5

5

5

5.25

MP 56 EB Rocky Run CRA

Single CRO

MITIGATED

from

2

10'

50'

12 mi

x

6

7

6

5

6

5

5

5

5.5

5.50



Views toward the road



VISUAL ANALYSIS MATRIX

I-90 East of Snoqualmie Pass

ALTERNATIVE	ORIENTATION TO FACILITY	VIEWPOINT	VIEW DISTANCE			VIEWER POSITION			VIVIDNESS					INTACTNESS			UNITY	TOTAL VISUAL QUALITY	
			FOREGROUND	MIDDEGROUND	BACKGROUND	INFERIOR	LEVEL	SUPERIOR	LANDFORM	WATERFORM	VEGETATIVE	MANMADE	AVERAGE	DEVELOPMENT	ENCROACHMENT	AVERAGE	OVERALL		
Landscape Unit 1 Toward the Roadway																			
Key View F	EXISTING	toward	F	30'	100'	5 mi			x	7	5	4	4	5	4	5	4.5	5	4.833
Rocky Run Summer Homes	MITIGATED	toward								7	5	4	4	5	4	4.5	4.25	5	4.75

Views toward the Road



VISUAL ANALYSIS MATRIX

I-90 East of Snoqualmie Pass

ALTERNATIVE	ORIENTATION TO FACILITY	VIEWPOINT	VIEW DISTANCE			VIEWER POSITION			VIVIDNESS					INTACTNESS			UNITY	TOTAL VISUAL QUALITY
			FOREGROUND	MIDDLEGROUND	BACKGROUND	INFERIOR LEVEL	SUPERIOR		LANDFORM	WATERFORM	VEGETATIVE	MANMADE	AVERAGE	DEVELOPMENT	ENCROACHMENT	AVERAGE	OVERALL	

Landscape Unit 1 Toward the Roadway

Key View H	EXISTING	toward	E	70'	200'	7 mi	x		6	7	5	5	5.8	5	6	5.5	5	5.417
Long tunnel	MITIGATED	toward		50'	200'	10 mi	x		6	7	6	6	6.3	6	6	6	6	6.083
Short Tunnel I	MITIGATED	toward				10 mi	x		6	7	6	5.5	6.1	6	6	6	6	6.042
Short WB Tunnel I	MITIGATED	toward					x		6	7	5.5	6	6.1	5.5	6	5.75	6	5.958
Both on Slide Curve	MITIGATED	toward					x		6	7	5	5	5.8	5	5.5	5.25	5	5.333

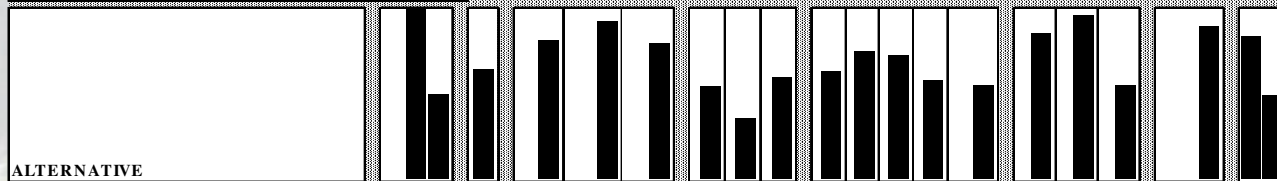


Views from the Road



VISUAL ANALYSIS MATRIX

I-90 East of Snoqualmie Pass



ALTERNATIVE

Landscape Unit 1 - From the Roadway

KEY VIEW 4	EXISTING	from	4	40'	300'	4 mi.	x	6	7	6	5	6	5	5	5	6	5.67
Long tunnel	MITIGATED	from	4			500 ft	x	1	0	0	4	1.25	3	4	3.5	3	2.58
Short Tunnel	MITIGATED	from	4			500 ft	x	6	7	6	5	6	4.5	5	4.75	5	5.25
Short WB Tunnel	MITIGATED	from	4			4 mi.	x	6	7	5	5	5.75	4.5	5	4.75	5	5.17
Both on Slide Curve	MITIGATED	from	4			4 mi.	x	6	7	4	5	5.5	4.5	5	4.75	5	5.08



Views from the road

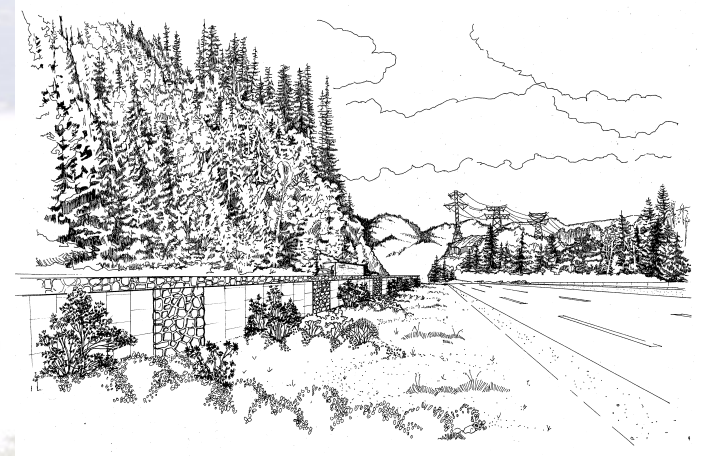


VISUAL ANALYSIS MATRIX

I-90 East of Snoqualmie Pass

ALTERNATIVE																					
Landscape Unit 1 - From the Roadway																					
Key View 6	EXISTING	from	6	30'	200'	0.5 mi	x			5	6	5	5	5.25		5	5	5		5	5.08
Long tunnel	MITIGATED	from	6			500 ft	x			5	6	6	5	5.5		4.5	5	4.75		5	5.08
Short Tunnel	MITIGATED	from	6			500 ft	x			5	6	6	5	5.5		4.5	5	4.75		5	5.08
Short WB Tunnel	MITIGATED	from	6	200'	500'	0.5 mi	x			5	6	5.5	5	5.375		5	5	5		5	5.13
Both on Slide Curve	MITIGATED		6	200'	500'	0.5 mi	x			5	6	5	5	5.25		5	5	5		5	5.08

Views from the road



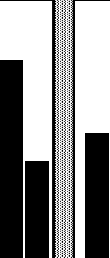

VISUAL ANALYSIS MATRIX																		
I-90 East of Snoqualmie Pass																		
ALTERNATIVE	Landscape Unit 3			VIEW DISTANCE			VIEWER POSITION			VIVIDNESS				INTACTNESS			UNITY	
Key View 12	EXISTING	from	12	100'	1000'	4 mi	x			5	6	4	3.8	5	4	4.5	5	4.42
MP 65.8 EB																		
Common Route	MITIGATED									5	5	5	3.6	5	4	4.5	5	4.38

Views from the road



PHOTO: SCOTT JACKSON

VISUAL ANALYSIS MATRIX

I-90 East of Snoqualmie Pass																				
ALTERNATIVE				VIEW DISTANCE			VIEWER POSITION			VIVIDNESS					INTACTNESS			UNITY		
Landscape Unit 3																				
Key View 14	EXISTING	from	14	30'	0.50 mi	12 mi	x		6	0	6	5	4.3	5	5	5	6	5.08		
MP 67.23 EB Easton Hill CRA																				
CRO A	MITIGATED	from	14				x		6	0	5	5	4	5	5	5	6	5.00		
CRO B	MITIGATED	from	14				x		6	0	6	5	4.3	4.5	5	4.75	6	5.00		
CRO C	MITIGATED	from	14				x		6	0	5	5	4	5	5	5	6	5.00		

Views toward the road

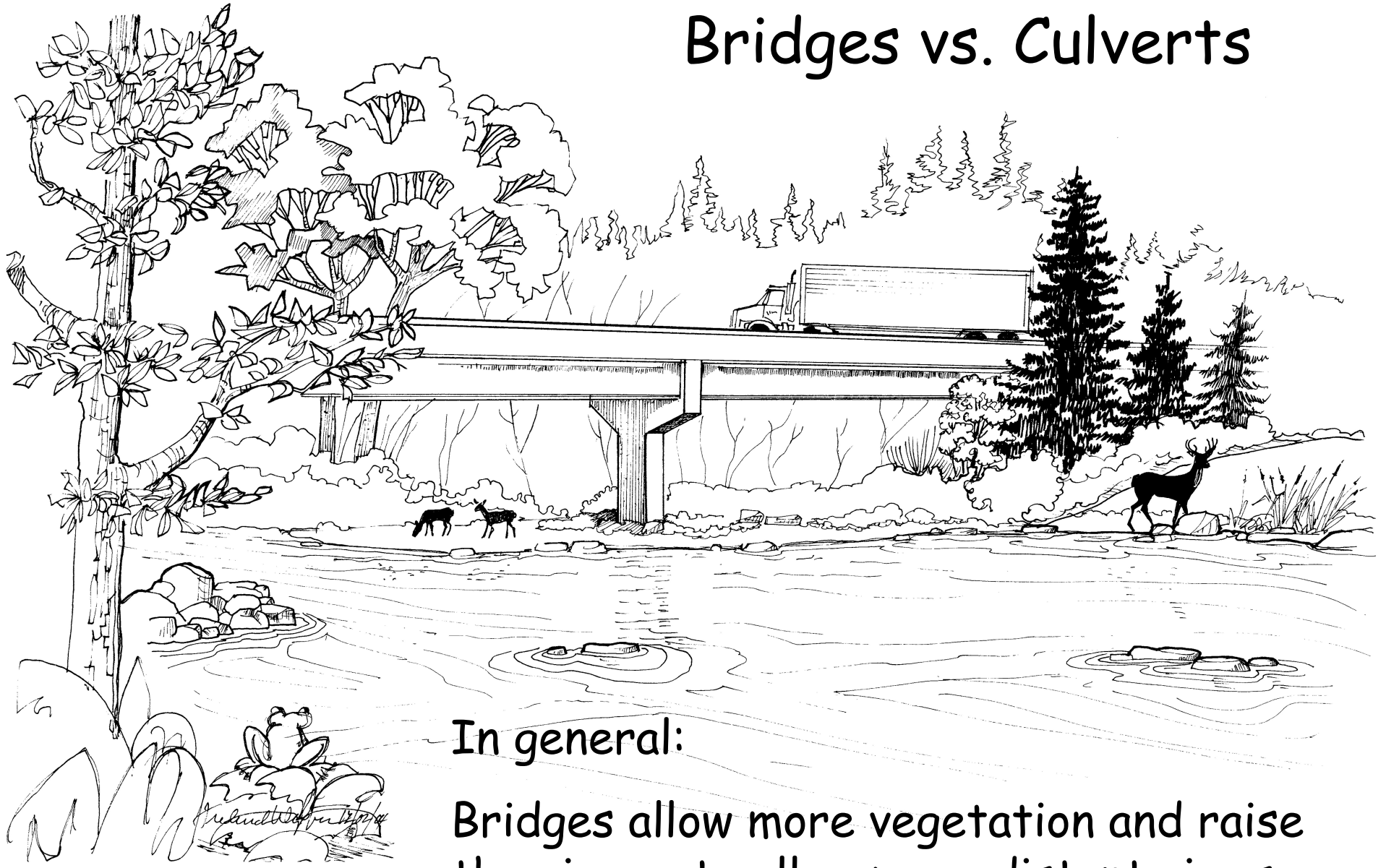


VISUAL ANALYSIS MATRIX

I-90 East of Snoqualmie Pass


ALTERNATIVE			VIEW DISTANCE			VIEWER POSITION			VIVIDNESS					INTACTNESS			UNITY	
Landscape Unit 4	Key View L	EXISTING	toward	H	50'	500'	3 mi	x	6	5	5	5	5.3	5	5	5	5	5.08
	from Fishing Bridge Lk.Easton SP																	
	Kachess RiverCRA	MITIGATED		H				x	6	5	5	5	5.3	5	5	5	5	5.08

Bridges vs. Culverts



In general:

Bridges allow more vegetation and raise the viewer to allow more distant views

An aerial photograph of a large, calm body of water, likely a reservoir, nestled between steep, forested mountains. A winding road or path runs along the left side of the water. The foreground shows a dense forest of evergreen trees. The overall scene is serene and natural.

Contact Information

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